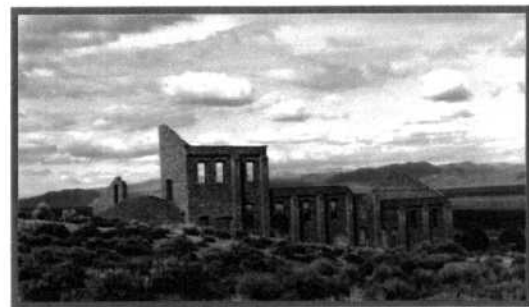


ABOUT BELMONT

The rich discovery of silver marked the birth of the Belmont mining camp in 1865. Make-shift tents housed the early miners. As the town prospered, a more permanent town was built using local materials of stone, pine and juniper. Red brick was manufactured from clay discovered four miles west of town and was also used in the construction of other Belmont buildings. Main Street was the commercial hub while East Belmont, located over the east ridge of town, was where most of the mining activity occurred. At its peak, Belmont boasted a population of more than 2000 inhabitants who had access to businesses and amenities one would find in a big city. A post office was officially opened in 1867 and shortly thereafter Belmont was made the Nye County seat. The handsome Nye County Courthouse was completed in 1876 reflecting Belmont's prosperity. Like so many mining towns of Nevada, Belmont too experienced an eventual decline. A series of unfortunate events and larger booms in other parts of the state caused many citizens to leave. Some left town with not only their personal belongings, but the scarce wooden building materials from their homes and businesses. Fortunately many of the buildings were left intact, especially those made of stone and brick. Belmont today is viewed as a ghost town, but there are still many residents who proudly make Belmont their home. Buildings are now owned by either private individuals, Nye County or the State of Nevada. The town is also listed in the *National Register of Historic Places*. This map has been provided by the *Friends of Belmont* so that you too may enjoy and admire Belmont's beauty.



1915 Flotation Mill
East Belmont

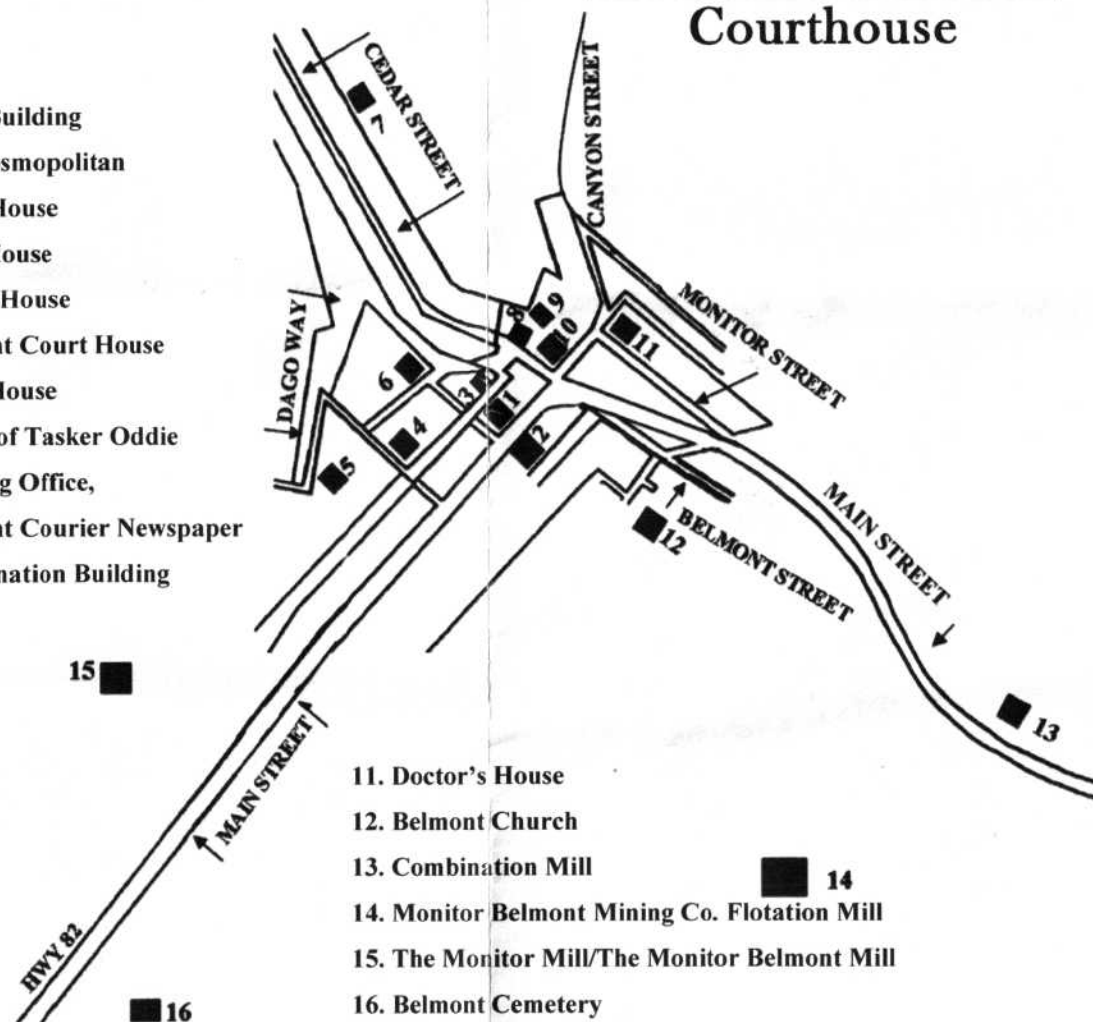


Courthouse



Cosmopolitan

1. Bank Building
2. The Cosmopolitan
3. Ernst House
4. Leon House
5. School House
6. Belmont Court House
7. Esser House
8. House of Tasker Oddie
9. Printing Office,
Belmont Courier Newspaper
10. Combination Building



11. Doctor's House
12. Belmont Church
13. Combination Mill
14. Monitor Belmont Mining Co. Flotation Mill
15. The Monitor Mill/The Monitor Belmont Mill
16. Belmont Cemetery

Belmont, Nevada Self Guided Tour

All property in Belmont is
privately owned.
Please respect.



Belmont Cemetery 1900's



SELF GUIDED TOUR OF BELMONT



#1 — BANK BUILDING

Circa 1868

This building is on Main Street and was originally built to house a bank. It was a one story brick building with a basement. At a later date the main floor was converted into a courtroom and a sheriff's office. The basement contained two jail cells. It was in the basement of this building that Jack Walker and Charles McIntyre were hung by unknown persons. It was stated in the newspaper that shortly after the hanging some of the "rougner" elements of town left for friendlier parts of Nevada.

#2 — THE COSMOPOLITAN

1867-1930

In Belmont's glory days, a two story wooden structure once stood here. It housed a saloon, a dance hall, a restaurant, and rooms for rent upstairs. Owners Morgan and Magee opened for business on April 29, 1867 and it was in continuous operation by a number of proprietors until 1910. After that date it was intermittently used as a bar, store post office, and occasionally used for social activities until after the 1930's.

#3 — ERNST HOUSE

George Ernst arrived in Belmont in the early 1870's. He lived with his family in the wood frame house tucked among the fruit trees. He came to Nevada in 1863 and worked as a surveyor on the Sutro Tunnel. He married Ellen Mary Hinton of Dayton, Nevada in 1865.

#4 — LEON HOUSE

William F. Leon was a prominent mining man in Belmont in 1867. He erected a brick residence on Spring Street. In 1888, he and his wife Mary celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary in the house. They lived in the house until their demise. It passed on to the Hunt family and finally to its present owners.

#5 — SCHOOL HOUSE

The first community school was on Main Street in a small building. As the community grew and a larger school became necessary, the community held events to raise funds to build it. On May 1, 1867 a "BALL" was held in the Eder's stone building and funds were raised to build it. Time and weather have taken their toll on the building where children went to learn their 3 R's.

#6 — BELMONT COURT HOUSE

1876-1905

The Belmont Court House was built in 1875-1876 for a cost of \$22,000. It was built on the site of the first mill in Belmont. On its completion a grand celebration was held on July 4, 1876 to celebrate the 100th birthday of our nation.

#7 — ESSER HOUSE

Circa 1870s

Mathew William Esser and his family lived in this brick house. Esser arrived in Belmont in 1866 and worked as a shoemaker. In 1872, he married Mary Ernst and they had two children. Esser opened a grocery store in 1874 in partnership with Harry Stimler. In 1880, he became associated with his brother-in-law, George Ernst. They were involved in mining and ranching in the area. Esser died in 1895 and his son Ernst Esser took over the store and family interests.

#8 — HOUSE OF TASKER ODDIE

Tasker L. Oddie, a man who became governor and U.S. Senator of Nevada, lived in this house when he moved to Belmont in 1899. He moved to Belmont from Austin, Nevada where he was an agent for Ansom Phelps Stokes interests. He purchased a house and part interest in a mine from the estate of Peter Bartell in October 1899. The house was described by Oddie in a letter home as..."a stone and brick building one story high with three good rooms and two store rooms of wood".

#9 — PRINTING OFFICE, BELMONT COURIER NEWSPAPER

Two maps of early day Belmont show the Belmont Inn Bar as the building that housed the printing office of the newspaper. John Booth and Andrew Cassamayou were the first owners of the paper. After

Cassamayou's death, Booth sold the newspaper to Andrew Maute in December of 1876. Maute ran the paper until he moved to Carson City in 1899. He leased the paper to F.G.Humphrey who ran it until 1901.

#10 — COMBINATION BUILDING

1867

The Combination Building was built to house the superintendent and offices associated with the Combination Mining Company. The large impressive stone building was built at the head of Belmont's Main Street. The Combination Mining Company purchased the original claims on the Transylvania ledge in 1867 and immediately built this building as well as a large 40 stamp mill in East Belmont. The cost of the buildings and equipment led to the bankruptcy of the company. George Roscoe Williams, a local attorney, acquired the building as part of a judgment against the mining company and lived in the structure until 1876 when he moved from Belmont. The building has been occupied most of the time since its construction which explains the excellent condition of the building.

#11 — DOCTOR'S HOUSE

The old timers referred to this house as the doctor's house. The newspaper of 1868 states a Dr. James Riddle built a new house on Oliver Street. Dr. Riddle was one of the founding members of the Masonic Order, Oasis #11 in 1866, and he was elected State Senator of Nye County in November 1866. Later this house was occupied by Aunt Kit Anderson.

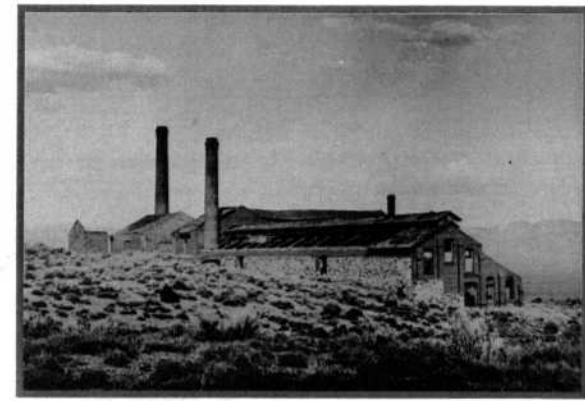
#12 — BELMONT CHURCH

2001

This structure is a replica of the Catholic Church that was moved from Belmont to Manhattan in 1906. The original church was called St. Stephen's Church and occupied a site near the present community fire station. The original church was built by subscription in 1872.

#13 — COMBINATION MILL

This mill was a forty stamp mill built in 1867 and by September of 1868 was closed. There were two large smoke stacks intended to carry the smoke and pollutants (sulfur, etc.) down wind and away from the community of East Belmont. The sulfide silver ores



were crushed, roasted, salt added and mixed with mercury to extract silver. In July 1878, the mill was remodeled and was run until May 1879. The mill machinery was moved in 1880 to the camp of Gold Mountain.

#14 — MONITOR BELMONT MINING COMPANY FLOTATION MILL 1915

This mill was constructed from brick salvaged from the Combination Mill by the reorganized Monitor Belmont Mining Company in 1915. By 1918, the mill was inactive and the tailings were processed by a small scale cyanide facility operated by Donald C. Cameron.

#15 — THE MONITOR MILL/THE MONITOR BELMONT MILL

A large wooden building was built here by the Monitor Mining Company and the Belmont Mining Company. Operations started on November 21, 1873. It was remodeled in 1878 and again put into operation on October 9, 1878. The last reported shipment from here was on April 3, 1889.

#16 — BELMONT CEMETERY 1869 -PRESENT

The Belmont Cemetery is in a beautiful setting of pine, juniper and sagebrush beneath the base of Cemetery Hill. The first occupants were most likely interred in the winter of 1869. As you walk through the cemetery you will see family plots of many of the people who came here to settle and establish businesses in and around the area. You will also see a number of small graves because the infant mortality rate was quite high due to childhood illnesses and epidemics.